

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

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FM AMEMBASSY ANKARA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 726

INFO AMEMBASSY ATHENS

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY NICOSIA

AMCONSUL ADANA

AMCONSUL ISTANBUL

AMCONSUL IZMIR

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E.O.11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, TU, GR, CY

SUBJECT: DENKTASH STATEMENT ON UDI AND REFUGEE

RESETTLEMENT

1. TURKISH CYPRIOT LEADER RAUF DENKTASH, IN AN EXCLUSIVE INTERVIEW PUBLISHED IN SEPTEMBER 14 MILLIYET, ANNOUNCED THAT A UNILATERAL DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE (UDI) SHOULD BE PROCLAIMED BY THE TURKISH CYPRIOTS IF AT THE UN GENERAL ASSEMBLY "WE ARE NOT GIVEN THE RIGHT TO SPEAK AND IF A RESOLUTION AGAINST US IS EXTRACTED." DENKTASH ADDED THAT "THE BASIS OF OUR INDEPENDENCE MUST BE OUR CURRENT FRONTIERS. WE MUST EXPLICITLY ANNOUNCE THAT WE WILL GIVE NO LAND CONCESSIONS IN VIEW OF THE GREEK STANCE."

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2. DENKTASH'S UDI PROPOSAL WAS PART OF A FOUR-STEP STRATEGY THAT HE OUTLINED. THE OTHER STEPS: (1) THE TURKISH CYPRIOTS WOULD EXPOSE MAKARIOS AS AN "IMPOSTER WHO HAS NO POWER TO SPEAK FOR CYPRUS; (2) "WE MUST ENGAGE IN INTENSIVE PROPAGANDA CAMPAIGN" TO EXPLAIN THE FACTS OF THE TURKISH INTERVENTION AND TO COUNTER GREEK "RHETORIC;" BUT (3) IF MAKARIOS ABANDONED THE TACTIC OF GOING TO THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY, "WE SHOULD REESTABLISH THE CONDITIONS OF NEGOTIATION IN THE LIGHT OF CYPRUS REALITIES."

3. DENOUNCING THE GREEK CYPRIOTS' BEHAVIOR IN THE NEW YORK TALKS WITH CLERIDES, DENKTASH NOTED THAT "CONSTRUCTIVE RESULTS" COULD HAVE COME FROM THE NEW YORK MEETING IF THE GREEKS "HAD SAT AT THE CONFERENCE TABLE." DENKTASH ALSO CRITICIZED CLERIDES FOR "BACKING DOWN" ON

HIS AGREEMENTS AT VIENNA III TO A BIZONAL FEDERATION AND TO THE PROPOSITION THAT BOTH SIDES WOULD PREPARE AND COMPARE MAPS PRIOR TO THE NEW YORK MEETING.

4. DENKTASH STATED THAT IT WAS "NOT REALISTIC FOR THE GREEKS TO RETURN (TO THE NORTH) EN MASSE, BECAUSE THE GREEK LEADERSHIP HAS ACCEPTED AN EXCHANGE OF POPULATION. THIS SITUATION IS OPPOSED TO THE CONCEPT OF BIZONAL FEDERATION ACCEPTED BY THE PARTIES AND WOULD RESULT IN A SITUATION WHICH WOULD PUT AN END TO PEACE."

5. HE CONCLUDED, "THERE IS NO QUESTION NOW OF RETURNING REFUGEES IN CYPRUS. IT IS A QUESTION OF RESETTLING BOTH SIDES IN THEIR NEW HOMES, AND IN A YEAR THIS HAS BEEN DONE."

6. COMMENT: OUR INITIAL IMPRESSION IS THAT DENKTASH'S STATEMENTS CONCERNING UDI ARE PRIMARILY A TACTIC AIMED AT STOPPING UN GENERAL ASSEMBLY ACTION THAT WOULD BE UNFAVORABLE TO THE TURKISH SIDE. HOWEVER, THERE MAY BE A DANGER THAT WHAT BEGINS AS A TACTICAL MANEUVER COULD WITH REPETITION DEVELOP INTO A COMMITMENT FOR TURKEY. SO FAR THERE HAS BEEN NO REPEAT NO OFFICIAL GOT COMMENT ON DENKTASH'S STATEMENTS.
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